



E A S T G R I N S T E A D
U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L .

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1942.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Mrs. H. M. Munn, (Chairman)

Mr. H. T. Buckett,

Mr. F. C. Dart,

Mr. St. John D. C. Payne,

Dr. S. L. Walker,

Mr. W. V. Wray,

Mr. H. Young,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
Assistant County School Medical Officer and Medical
Superintendent, High Grove Isolation Hospital

John Petrie,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

SANITARY INSPECTOR

Wm. H. Dunham,
C.R.San.I.

CLERK TO THE DEPARTMENT

Mrs. E. Thorns.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	6,597 areas.
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1942	£ 94,301.
Sum represented by 1d Rate	£ 385.

The figures for unemployment are given below, those in brackets being the figures for the previous year.

<u>Period.</u>	<u>Men.</u>	<u>Women.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
March Quarter	10 (86)	12 (20)	22 (106)
June Quarter	5 (60)	10 (15)	15 (75)
September Quarter	12 (77)	16 (25)	28 (102)
December Quarter	23 (110)	25 (30)	48 (140)
Average	12 (83)	16 (22)	28 (106)

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	74.	81.	155.
Illegitimate	5.	7.	12.
Total live births ..	79.	88.	167.

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2.	3.	5.
Illegitimate	-	1.	1.
Total still births ..	2.	4.	6.

Deaths.

Males	54.
Females	73.
	<u>126.</u>

Deaths from Puerperal Causes Nil.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :

All infants per 1,000 live births	29.94
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	25.80
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	83.33
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	26.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	1.

MORTALITY IN AGE GROUPS.

AGE GROUPS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
0	2.	3.	5.
1	-	-	-
5	1.	-	1.
15	-	-	-
25 .....1.....	-	-	-
35	1.	5.	6.
45	5.	2.	7.
55	9.	11.	20.
65	12.	23.	35.
75 & over	24.	29.	53.
TOTALS	54.	73.	127.

Of the total deaths, 69.29% occurred in persons 65 years of age and over.

There were four deaths due to notifiable infectious diseases, all being cases of pneumonia.

There were five deaths in children under one year of age, two males and three females. A table showing the causes of the infantile deaths is given hereunder:-

CAUSE OF DEATH	Age at Death	
	Males	Females
Prematurity	6 hours	
Cerebral compression, birth injuries		6 days
Gastro-enteritis		1 month
Bronchitis, marasmus, congenital heart disease	3 months	
Pyelitis, diarrhoea and vomiting		5 months

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis: Respiratory	2.	1.	3.
Cancer	8.	18.	26.
Diabetes	-	1.	1.
Cerebral Haemorrhage	2.	13.	15.
Heart disease	13.	18.	31.
Other Circulatory Diseases	1.	1.	2.
Bronchitis	7.	1.	8.
Pneumonia	1.	3.	4.
Other respiratory diseases	-	3.	3.
Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	-	1.	1.
Appendicitis	1.	-	1.
Other digestive diseases	-	2.	2.
Nephritis	4.	3.	7.
Premature birth	1.	-	1.
Birth injury	-	1.	1.
Suicide	1.	-	1.
Other Violence	3.	2.	5.
All other causes	10.	5.	15.
Total deaths	54.	73.	127.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

These remain as outlined in previous reports.

Ambulance Facilities.

A Home Service Ambulance of the British Red Cross Society is stationed at East Grinstead, and serves the Urban District and the surrounding villages.

For infectious diseases, an ambulance stationed at the High Grove Isolation Hospital at East Grinstead is available for the removal of all cases of infectious disease.

The ambulance service for the district appears to be adequate.

Laboratory Examinations.

The following specimens were submitted during the year for bacteriological examination :-

SPECIMEN	By whom taken		TOTAL
	General Practitioners	Public Health Department	
Swabs	~	16.	16.
Blood	~	1.	1.
Faeces	1.	1.	2.
Urine	~	1.	1.
Milk	~	5.	5.
Other specimens	~	2.	2.
TOTALS	1.	26.	27.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

Three premises previously supplied by spring water were connected to the public water supply.

No changes have taken place in the sources of main water supply in the area. Samples of water from these supplies are submitted periodically for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination and the results have been consistently satisfactory.

Public Cleansing.

The dry refuse from private houses and other sources was collected by the Council and after salvage had been extracted the remainder was disposed of by controlled tipping at the Council's destructor site.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

(W.H. Dunham, Sanitary Inspector)

Housing Regulations	75.
Re-visits in connection with the above	46.
Nuisances	61.
Smoke Regulations	12.
Water Supplies	14.
Infectious Diseases	52.
Other disinfections and disinfestations	10.
Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919	57.
Meatshops and Slaughterhouses	56.
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops	94.
Fish Shops	38.

Other Food Shops	116.
Bakehouses	3.
Factories & Workshops	7.
Laundries	12.
Knackers	21.
Petrol Stores	3.
Evacuation	106.
Air Raid Precautions	35.
Miscellaneous	3.

Total visits and re-visits 821.

Premises in respect of which complaints were received.

Number of complaints received	18.
" " " substantiated	14.
" " " abated	12.
" " " outstanding	2.

Summary of main defects abated.

Premises in which walls were made good	1.
" " " roofs were made good	11.
" " " floors were made good	10.
" " " other causes of dampness	6.
" " " disinfection was carried out	13.
" " " rooms were cleansed	8.
" " " windows were amended	4.
Drains reconstructed, provided or amended	16.
Water closets ---- do. ----	8.
Eaves, gutters and downspouts amended	1.
Cesspools reconstructed or amended	5.
Yards improved	2.
Water supplies improved	6.
Sanitary Dustbins provided	7.

Shops Act, 1934.

Inspections as enumerated above have been made, but formal action has not been necessary in any instance.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of houses found to be infested :-

- (a) Council houses 1.
- (b) Other houses 1.

Number of houses disinfested :-

- (a) Council houses 1.
- (b) Other houses - (1 in hand 31.12.)

School Hygiene.

The periodic inspection of schools has been carried out and details sent to the School Medical Officer.

It was found necessary to close North End Church of England School for five days during February and four days during July-August for the control of infectious disease.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply.

There are on the Register of the Council :-

Retail Purveyors 35.
Registered Producers 21.
Registered Premises 29.

Slaughter of Animals.

Slaughtering was discontinued at the Ministry of Food's slaughterhouse in the East Grinstead Urban District on the 13th February, 1942. The property was derequisitioned but may be used as an emergency slaughterhouse in the future.

Meat and Other Foods.

No formal action has been necessary with regard to foodstuffs, but the following have been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:-

Cows Head and tongue Tuberculosis.
 Four pairs of lungs Tuberculosis.
 Lungs and liver Tuberculosis.

Heifers. Carcase and offal Tuberculosis.
 Forequarters, heart and lungs Tuberculosis.
 Pair of lungs Tuberculosis.

Calves. Leg Breakage.

Pigs. Carcase and offal Fever and emaciation
 Head Tuberculosis.
 Liver Fatty infiltration.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows and Heifers	Cows and Heifers	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	4.	16.	42.	31.	21.
Number inspected	4.	16.	42.	31.	21.
All diseases except Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	1.
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned	-	-	1.	-	1.
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	-	-	2.38	-	9.52
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	1.	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	8.	-	-	1.
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuberculosis	-	56.25	-	-	4.76

Other Foods.

10 cwts. 2 qrs... Fish Decomposed.
2 cwts. Dried peas Marsh spot.

479	.....	Eggs	.....	Broken and/or decomposed.
125	.....	Oranges	.....	Core rot.
31 lbs.	.....	Cheese	.....	Mouldy.
9 ³ / ₄ lbs.	.....	Fish paste	.....	Putrid.
2 lbs.	.....	Luncheon sausages)	.....	Part eaten by mice and/or
2 lbs.	.....	Pork sausages.)	.....	rats.
7 lbs.	.....	Butter	.....	Rancid.
62 ¹ / ₂ lbs.	.....	Beef	.....	Putrid.
4 lbs. 2 ozs.	.....	Corned beef	.....	Mouldy.
54 lbs.	.....	Flour	.....	Damaged by enemy action.
140 lbs.	.....	Flour	.....	Contaminated by dead poisoned rat.
18 lbs.	.....	Peppermint lozenges	.....	Dirty.
3 jars	.....	Marmalade	.....	Damaged by enemy action.
9 jars	.....	Jam	.....
1 jar	.....	Chutney	.....
5 jars	.....	Marmalade	.....	Damaged & containing glass.
3 jars	.....	Jam	.....
5 jars	.....	Lemon curd	.....
80 tins	.....	Fruit	.....	Blown or damaged.
43 tins	.....	Fish	.....	" " "
20 tins	.....	Corned beef	.....	" " "
19 tins	.....	Beans	.....	" " "
4 tins	.....	Mixed vegetables.	.....	" " "
5 tins	.....	Carrots	.....	" " "
19 tins	.....	Tomatoes	.....	" " "
80 tins	.....	Milk	.....	" " "
3 tins	.....	Jam	.....	" " "
15 tins	.....	Pork luncheon meat	.....	" " "
22 tins	.....	Peas	.....	" " "
2 tins	.....	Meat roll	.....	" " "
38 tins	.....	Pork sausage meat	.....	" " "
12 tins	.....	Prem	.....	" " "
5 tins	.....	Soup	.....	" " "
7 tins	.....	Steak and vege- tables	.....	" " "
3 tins	.....	Rabbit	.....	" " "
3 tins	.....	Steak	.....	" " "
8 tins	.....	Treacle	.....	" " "
4 tins	.....	Ready meal	.....	" " "
1 tin	.....	Syrup	.....	Damaged.
1 tin	.....	Pease pudding	.....	"
1 tin	.....	Lunch galentine.	.....	Blown.
1 tin	.....	Spam	.....	Mouldy.
1 tin	.....	Powdered dried eggs	.....	Putrid.
1 tin	.....	Savoury hot lunch	.....	Damaged.
4 ¹ / ₂ lbs.	.....	Chopped canned ham	.....	Rancid.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The scheme outlined in the 1939 Annual Report has been continued, the total number of children immunised during 1942 being 372, of whom 182 were under five years of age.

Schick Test Clinics.

Schick Test Clinics were held during the year to determine whether children who had been immunised were immune to diphtheria. 889 children were tested of whom 146 were under five years of age. 32 of the children were found to be positive to the test.

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the year :-

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Paratyphoid.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	TOTALS
Under 1 year	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.	1.
1 "	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3.	3.
2 "	1.	1	1	1	1	1	4.	4.	9.
3 "	2.	1.	1	1	1	1	9.	7.	19.
4 "	1.	1.	1	1	1	1	2.	3.	7.
5 "	9.	1.	1	1	1	1	6.	4.	20.
10 "	2.	1	2.	1.	1	1	2.	1	7.
15 "	1.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.
20 "	1	1	1	1	1.	1	1	1.	3.
25 "	1	1	1.	1.	1	1.	1	1	3.
35 "	1	1	1	2.	1	1	1	1	2.
45 and over	1	1	1.	1	1	1	1	1	1.
TOTALS	16.	4.	4.	4.	1.	1.	23.	23.	76.
Cases admitted to hospital	15.	4.	3.	4.	1.	-	10.	4.	41.
Total deaths	-	-	4.	-	-	-	-	-	4.

CANCER

Twenty-six deaths, comprising eight males and eighteen females were recorded during the year.

MORTALITY IN AGE GROUPS.

AGE GROUP	Male	Female	Total
35 "	1	1.	1.
45 "	1	1.	1.
55 "	2.	3.	5.
65 "	4.	6.	10.
75 "	2.	4.	6.
85 and over	1	3.	3.
Totals	8.	18.	26.

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been necessary during the year under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

TUBERCULOSIS - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1942.

Age Groups.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Respiratory		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	1.	-	-	1.	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	2.	-	1.	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	1.	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	1.	-	-	-	2.	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	1.	-	-
Totals	3.	3.	-	2.	2.	1.	-	-

-----oOo-----

JOHN PETRIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

